



**MINUTES (REVISED)**  
**Board of Water Commissioners**  
**Public Works Conference Room**  
**630 Garden Street**  
**August 11, 2008 3:00 p.m.**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: James Smith, Barry Keller, Landon Neustadt, Kate Rees, Russell Ruiz

COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Bjork, Acting Water Resources Manager; Cathy Taylor, Water System Manager; Anne Van Belkom, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC: Steve Little; Harriet Sharp; Tom Mosby, Montecito Water District; Charles Hamilton, Carpinteria Valley Water District.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m.
2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None.
3. **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC:** None.
4. **MEETING MINUTES, JULY 14, 2008:** MOTION (Keller/Neustadt 4-0-1, with Rees abstaining): to approve the minutes as submitted.
5. **ZACA FIRE:** Ms. Taylor informed Water Commissioners that the bathymetric survey of Gibraltar will be done this month, and that divers are currently removing sludge from Gibraltar Reservoir in order to allow the bottom intake gates to function again. Ms. Taylor also indicated that Council gave retroactive approval for the rental of a dewatering belt press and a dewatering mixer tank to be used at the Cater Water Treatment Plant.
6. **OUT-OF CITY WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT – 1297 MOUNTAIN DRIVE:** Ms. Bjork described the Out of City Water Service Agreement required for the addition of a second meter to service an additional unit being built on the same parcel at 1297 Mountain Drive. This item will go to Council for approval. MOTION (Rees/Keller 5-0-0): To approve the Out of City Water Service Agreement – 1297 Mountain Drive.
7. **LONG TERM WATER SUPPLY PLAN REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:** Ms. Bjork informed the Water Commissioners in advance of a Request For Proposals being readied regarding a Water Supply Planning Study that would be used to update the City's General Plan and the 1994 Long-Term Water Supply Program. To keep Water Commissioners informed, a Selection Committee has been formed with Water Commissioners Rees and Keller to review the ~~draft~~ **proposals**. The consultant will present the Draft Report to the Water Commission.
8. **WATER COMMISSION COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS:** Communication protocols were discussed with Water Commissioners. Staff reviewed various scenarios and answered specific questions. It was decided that communication to City Council members should clearly indicate whether a Commissioner is speaking on behalf of the Commission or as an individual. Email communication to Ms. Bjork from Commissioners would be distributed to Commissioners as an attachment to the agenda packet of the next meeting. Urgent items sent to Ms. Bjork will be forwarded to other Commissioners for their information. Commissioners may request that the Water Resources Manager place items on the agenda of the next available Water Commission meeting.
9. **AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURAL WATER RATES:** Commissioners Ruiz and Neustadt were appointed by Chair Smith to serve on an Ad Hoc Committee to consider rate setting for Agricultural Water users. Mr. Little spoke on behalf of the avocado growers and their benefits regarding fire mitigation and overall quality of life.
10. **UPDATE ON COUNCIL ACTION REGARDING DESALINATION STUDY:** This item was not approved by Council on August 5, 2008, but will go back to Council for a final decision on August 12, 2008. Staff will complete a revised Council Agenda Report clarifying the reasons for which the study is needed. ***Tom Mosby from the Montecito Water District and Charles Hamilton from the Carpinteria Valley Water District were present and spoke in support of the desalination study.***

11. **WATER RESOURCES MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ms. Bjork distributed and reviewed the Monthly Water Resources report on water production, rainfall, and wastewater influent. Water demand is still a little ahead of what was planned. The Landscape Design Standards for Water Conservation have been completed and will be reviewed by Council on August 12, 2008 for final approval.

12. **DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, September 8, 2008, at 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Approved with revisions: Monday, September 8, 2008

AVB